

File "Memo to DCI"

23 October 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : Presidential Briefing Coordinator
SUBJECT : Monday NIO Meeting on Latin America

1. We analysts had a warmup session this morning. Out of that I suggest your major thrust in the meeting should be;

How can we categorize the factors at work in Latin America and how do they impact in each country?

2. For example some of the factors might be, in no particular order,

- A. Lack of integrated societies. In Central America & north this means Europeans vs. Indians. In Argentina it means various European groups stay in their "ghettos."
- B. Population growth. Ranges from major, almost unmanageable problem in Mexico to no problem in Argentina.
- C. Conviction of ^{military} leaders that traditional western democracy is unworkable and that US leaders don't understand their situation. Pretty constant across Latin America.
- D. Stresses of rapid urbanization. Across Latin America conviction on the part of the poor that urban slums are better than the countryside.
- E. Military vs. Civilian Rule Isn't Same as Repression vs. Freedom. Cyclical swings go on in all countries.



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cc: DD/NFA